THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, October 20, 1806.

NICOLAS PEDROSA.

(Continued from Page 811.)

ONE of the messengers of the auditory now came in, and bade the fellow strike off the prisoner's fetters, for that the holy fathers were in council, and demanding him for examination. "This is something extraordinary," quoth the tormentor, "I should not have expected it this twelvemonth to come." Pedrosa's fetters were struck off; some brandy was applied to stanch the bleeding of his cheek; his hands and face were washed, and a short jacket of coarse ticking thrown over him, and the messenger, with an assistant, taking him each under an arm, led him into a spacious chamber, where at the head of a long table sate his excellency the inquisidor-general, with six of his assessors, three on each side the chair of state: the alguazil mayor, a secretary, and two notaries, with other officers of the holy council, were attending in their places.

The prisoner was placed behind a bar at the foot of the table between the messengers who brought him in, and having made his obeisance to the awful presence in the most supplicating manner, he was called on, according to the usual form of questions, by one of the junior judges, to declare his name, parentage, profession, age, place of abode, and to answer various interrogatories of the like trifling nature: his excellency the inquisidor-general now opened his reverend lips, and in a solemn tone of voice, which penetrated to the heart of the poor trembling prisoner, interrogated him as follows:

" Nicolas Pedrosa, we have listened to the account you give of yourself, your business, and connections; now tell us for what offence or offences you are here standing a prisoner before us; examine your own heart, and speak the truth from your conscience, without prevarication or disguise." " May it please your excellency," replied Pedrosa, " with all due submission to your holiness and this reverend assembly, my most equitable judges, I conceive I stand here before you for no worse a crime, than that of cudgelling a refractory mule; an animal so restive in its nature (under correction of your holiness be it spoken), that although I were blest with the forbearance of holy Job (for like him too I am married, and my patience hath been exercised by a wife), yet could I not forbear to smite my beast for her obstinacy, and the rather because I was summoned in the way of my profession, as I have already made known to your most merciful ears, on a certain crying occasion, which would not admit of a moment's delay." " Recollect yourself, Nicolas," said his excellency the inquisidor-general, " was there nothing else you did, save smiting your beast?" " I take Saint Nicolas de Tolentino to witness," replied he, " that I know of no other crime, for which I can be responsible at this righteous tribunal, save smiting my unruly beast." " Take notice, brethren," exclaimed the inquisidor, " this unholy wretch holds trampling over friars to be no crime." " Pardon me, holy father," replied Nicolas, " I hold it for the worst of crimes, and therefore willingly surrender my refractory mule to be dealt with as you see fit, and if you impale her alive it will not be more than she deserves." " Your wits are too nimble, Nicolas," cried the judge; " have a care they do not run away with your discretion: recollect the blasphemies you uttered in the hearing of those pious people." " I humbly pray your excellency," answered the prisoner, " to recollect that anger is a short madness, and I hope allowances will be made by your holy council for words spoken in haste to a rebellious mule: the prophet Balaam was thrown off his guard with a simple ass, and what is an ass compared to a mule? If your excellency had seen the lovely creature who was screaming in agony 'till I came to her relief, and how fine a boy I ushered into the world, which would have been lost but for my assistance, I am sure I should not be condemned for a few hasty words spoken in passion."

" Sirrah!" cried one of the puisny judges, " respect the decency of the court." " Produce the contents of this fellow's pockets before the court," said the president, " lay them on the table." " Monster," resumed the aforesaid puisny judge, taking up the forceps, " what is the use of this diabolical machine?" Please your reverence," replied Pedrosa, " aptum est ad extrahendos fœtus."—" Unnatural wretch," again exclaimed the judge, " you have murdered the mother." " The

mother

mother of God forbid!" exclaimed Pedrosa, "I believe I have a proof in my pocket which will acquit me of that charge;" and so saying, he tendered the letter we have before made mention of: the secretary took it, and by command of the court read as follows.

"*Senor Don Manuel de Herrera,*

"When this letter, which I send by Nicolas Pedrosa, shall reach your hands, you will know that I am safely delivered of a lovely boy, after a dangerous labour, in consideration of which I pray you to pay to the said Nicolas Pedrosa the sum of twenty gold pistoles, which sum his excellency——"

"Hold," cried the inquisidor-general, starting hastily from his seat, and snatching away the letter, "there is more in this than meets the eye: break up the court; I must take an examination of this prisoner in private."

As soon as the room was cleared, the inquisidor-general beckoning to the prisoner to follow him, retired into a private closet, where, throwing himself carelessly into an arm-chair, he turned a gracious countenance upon the poor affrighted accoucheur, and bidding him sit down upon a low stool by his side, thus accosted him—"Take heart, Senor Pedrosa, your imprisonment is not likely to be very tedious, for I have a commission you must execute without loss of time: you have too much consideration for yourself to betray a trust, the violation of which must involve you in inevitable ruin, and can in no degree attaint my character, which is far enough beyond the reach of malice: be attentive therefore to my orders; execute them punctually, and keep my secret as you tender your own life: dost thou know the name and condition of the lady whom thou hast delivered?" Nicolas assured him he did not, and his excellency proceeded as follows.—"Then I tell thee, Nicolas, it is the illustrious Donna Leonora de Cassafonda; her husband is the president of Quito, and daily expected with the next arrivals from the South Seas; now, though measures have been taken for detaining him at the port, wherever he shall land, 'till he shall receive further orders, yet you must be sensible Donna Leonora's situation is somewhat delicate: it will be your business to take the speediest measures for her recovery, but as it seems she has had a dangerous and painful labour, this may be a work of more time than could be wished, unless some medicines more efficacious than common be administered; art thou acquainted with any such, friend Nicolas?" "So please your excellency," quoth Nicolas, "my processes have been tolerably successful; I have bandages and cataplasms, with oils and conserves, which I have no cause to complain of; they will restore nature to its proper state in all decent time." "Thou talkest like a fool, friend Nicolas," interrupting him,

said the inquisidor; what tellest thou me of thy swathings and swaddlings? quick work must be wrought by quick medicines: hast thou none such in thy botica? I'll answer for it thou hast not; therefore, look you, sirrah, here is a little vial compounded by a famous chymist; see that you mix in it the next apozem you administer to Donna Leonora; it is the most capital sedative in nature; give her the whole of it, and let her husband return when he will, depend upon it he will make no discoveries from her." "Humph!" quoth Nicolas within himself, "well said inquisidor!"

He took the vial with all possible respect, and was not wanting in professions of the most inviolable fidelity and secrecy. "No more words, friend Nicolas," quoth the inquisidor, "upon that score; I do not believe thee one jot the more for all thy promises, my dependence is upon thy fears and not thy faith; I fancy thou hast seen enough of this place not to be willing to return to it once for all." Having so said, he rang a bell, and ordered Nicolas to be forthwith liberated, bidding the messenger return his clothes instantly to him, with all which belonged to him, and having slipt a purse into his hand well filled with doubloons, he bade him begone about his business, and not see his face again 'till he had executed his commands.

Nicolas bolted out of the porch without taking leave of the altar, and never checked his speed 'till he found himself fairly housed under shelter of his own beloved brass basin. "Aha!" quoth Nicolas, "my lord-inquisidor, I see the king is not likely to gain a subject more by your intrigues: a pretty job you have set me about; and so, when I have put the poor lady to rest with your damned sedative, my tongue must be stopped next to prevent its blabbing: but I'll shew you I was not born in Andalusia for nothing." Nicolas now opened a secret drawer, and took out a few pieces of money, which in fact was his whole stock of cash in the world; he loaded and primed his pistols, and carefully lodged them in the housers of his saddle, he buckled to his side his trusty spada, and hastened to caparison his mule. "Ah, thou imp of the old one," quoth he, as he entered the stable, "art not ashamed to look me in the face? But, come, hussey, thou owest me a good turn, methinks, stand by me this once, and be friends for ever? thou art in good case, and if thou wilt put thy best foot foremost, like a faithful beast, thou shalt not want for barley by the way."

The bargain was soon struck between Nicolas and his mule; he mounted her in the happy moment, and pointing his course towards the bridge of Toledo, which proudly strides with half a dozen lofty arches over a stream scarcely three feet wide, he found himself as completely in a desert in half a mile's riding,

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as if he had been dropt in the centre of Arabia Petræa. As Nicolas's journey was not a tour of curiosity, he did not amuse himself with a peep at Toledo, or Talavera, or even Merida, by the way; for the same reason he took a circumbendibus round the frontier town of Badajos, and, crossing a little brook, refreshed his mule with the last draught of Spanish water, and instantly congratulated himself on entering the territory of Portugal. "Bravo!" quoth he, patting the neck of his mule, "thou shalt have a supper this night of the best sieve meat which Estramadura can furnish: we are now in a country where the scattered flock of Israel fold thick and fare well." He now began to chaunt the song of Solomon, and gentled ambled on in the joy of his heart.

(To be continued.)

Investigation of the Principles which shew that it would be much safer to jump from the Back than from the Side of a Carriage, when run away with by unruly Horses. In a Letter from J. E. Conant, Esq. &c. in Nicholson's Journal.

SIR, Great Marlborough, September 17.

AS so many accidents continually happen from the destructive expedient of leaping from the side of an open carriage while the horses are running away with it, perhaps you may be induced to insert this in the Philosophical Journal, in which I attempt to determine how far it may be safe in such cases to leap from the back of the vehicle. I hope it will be found correct, but I submit it with due deference to yourself and others.

In the following calculation, setting aside the resistance of the air, I suppose a young man (for it is a young practice to put an unruly horse to a carriage) able to spring two feet perpendicularly against the force of gravity; but in falling one second, he, in common with all bodies, would acquire a velocity of 32 feet per second, and have fallen through a space of 16 feet: and the spaces described being as the squares of the velocities, a man in falling two feet acquires a velocity of 11 feet per second, and this equals the velocity with which he first springs from the ground.

Suppose the carriage is moving at the rate of 12 miles an hour, and a man springs from the back of it at an angle of about 40° from the horizon, with a force as above equal to about 11 feet per second; this force estimated horizontally will be about nine feet per second, and the effort of the air, so far from

from resisting, will be in favour of the horizontal projection; this nine feet per second, or six miles per hour, deducted from the 12 miles, leaves 6 miles per hour for the actual horizontal velocity of the man after his leap, which the force of the air will somewhat lessen, and this, with the accelerating force of gravity, will carry him downward in the projectile curve, and (whatever may be the height of the vehicle) he will come to the ground with nearly the same force as if he had leaped from it while he was standing still, only that he will fall in an opposite direction, and must take care to throw himself in such a position that he does not fall backwards when he touches the ground.

From the result of this calculation a person run away with in an open carriage may judge how far this mode of escaping will be preferable as to safety.

For instance, if a gig is hung so low as to be an easy leap when standing still, he will probably receive little injury by leaping out of it when it is going at the rate of 15, or perhaps even 16 miles an hour, but not more. If he ventures to jump out at the side, the violence with which he would fall to the ground would be almost double, although the height might not be so great.

J. E. CONANT.

M. Depon's Account of the Population, Manners, and Customs of the Inhabitants of the Caracas.

THIS gentleman estimates the whole population of the Caracas at 728,000 souls, of which he assigns 500,000 to the provinces of Venezuela and Varinas, 100,000 to Maracaibo, 80,000 to Cumana, 34,000 to Spanish Guiana, and 14,000 to the isle of Margarita. The whites form one-fifth of this population, the slaves three-tenths, the free people of colour two-fifths, and the Indians one-tenth.

There are few Europeans in Caracas, except those sent out in the service of the state; including whom, not 100 Spaniards settle annually in the province;—but of those who go to America, very few return to their native country, except the Biscayners and Catalans. The Spaniards are not permitted to visit their American settlements without a licence from the king, which cannot be obtained, unless the object of their journey is known and approved of by the council of the Indies; and the licence granted to them is in general limited to two years residence, leave to settle not being obtained without the greatest difficulty. Even the Creoles, who have gone to Spain for their education, cannot return to their native country without a licence.

cence. So strict was the government formerly on this subject, that a passport to one province did not authorise the bearer of it to go to another. These severe, but ill executed laws, were dictated in part by political fears and jealousies; but their principal source was in that spirit of monastic regulation; in those maxims of religious bigotry and austerity, which have been so long cultivated with such mischievous effects in Spain. Instead of considering its colonies as a place of refuge for the idle, the profligate, and the disaffected, where they might learn to amend their lives, and, if possible, forget their errors, the Spanish court has watched over its foreign settlements with the solicitude of a duenna, and regulated their government as if they were to be inhabited by Carthusians. No Spaniard could get permission to go to America, without a certificate of his moral and religious character, and an attestation that none of his forefathers, for three generations back, had suffered in an *auto de fe*, or carried the infamous *san-benito*.

Foreigners of all descriptions are kept out of these countries with the greatest care; and if tolerated, by the connivance of the viceroys, they were subjected to every inconvenience and oppression. But of late years, so much have these ancient maxims of Spanish policy fallen into disregard, that, by a royal cedula of 1801, foreigners are permitted to settle in the Spanish colonies, for the payment of 8200 reals (about 86l.), to the crown; and, for the same sum, they may be admitted to all the privileges of natural born Spaniards, provided they are of the catholic persuasion, and not otherwise disqualified by law.

The Creoles are of quick apprehension, and capable of greater application to business or study, than their West Indian neighbours; but their education is miserably conducted. They are taught, in their infancy, the miracles and legends of their saints; and made to observe, with the most scrupulous attention, all the minute practices and observances of their religion. They are then instructed in Latin; and their education is supposed to be finished, when they have acquired a little scholastic learning, and attended the lectures of some professor of theology or law. Their ignorance of all sorts of useful knowledge is extreme, and can only be equalled by their contempt for all useful occupations. The care and improvement of their estates they esteem an object beneath their notice, and hold all professions in disdain, except the law, the army, and the church. Family pride, of the lowest and most illiberal cast, is one of their ruling passions; and this has been fostered by a preposterous regulation, which, 'till lately, obtained in all the dominions of Spain, empowering children, as soon as they attained the age of puberty, to compel their parents to consent to their marriage with whom they pleased, provided it was not with a person of inferior birth. This law was

abolished in 1803; and the authority of parents over their children, in the article of marriage, extended to 25 years for males, and to 23 for females; but, while it lasted, the objections to which it gave rise, on the ground of *misalliance*, were a criminal source of heart-burnings and dissensions in the Spanish colonies. Litigiousness is another fault of the Spanish Creoles. M. Depons calculates that law-suits cost in Caracas 1,200,000 dollars annually; and, in Cuba, in 1792, a population of 254,000 souls found employment for 106 advocates, with a proportionable number of attornies and notaries, while the French part of St. Domingo, with a population of 660,000 souls, maintained only 36. With these shades in their character, the Creoles of Caracas are mild and humane, moderate in their desires, and cautious, even to timidity, in their conduct, and in the management of their affairs. This turn of mind was strongly exemplified some years ago, in the attempt which was then made to excite them to take up arms against the mother country, and to throw off her main yoke. This conspiracy had its origin with three state prisoners, who had been sent from Spain to Caracas on account of their revolutionary delinquencies at home. These persons, who were condemned to perpetual banishment and imprisonment, being treated with great indulgence at Caracas, and permitted to have free intercourse with the natives, formed the project of a conspiracy against the government; but, though they engaged several persons of consequence in their party, such was the coldness and apathy of the Creoles, that, after their first converts, they made no progress in gaining proselytes. After the plot had been kept a profound secret for many months, it was disclosed to the government. Some of the ringleaders escaped; others were taken; but no resistance was attempted. It was found that 72 persons had entered into the conspiracy, six of whom were taken and executed; the rest either escaped, or were sent to the galleys, or banished from the colony. M. Depons reprobates this conspiracy with the horror natural to a refugee from St. Domingo, and with the philosophy now in credit at St. Cloud.

The Spanish Creoles marry in general as soon as they attain the age of puberty. An unmarried man of 20 begins to be looked upon as an old bachelor. It is not unusual to see a married couple, whose united ages do not make thirty. These early marriages are neither productive of happiness, nor conducive to morals. Fidelity to the marriage bed is equally disregarded by both parties. But, if any difference arises, the advantage is on the side of the wife; for she can have her husband reprimanded or imprisoned whenever she chooses to complain of his conduct; and if he should recriminate, she is sure that her story will be listened to in preference to his.

Religious scruples have prevented the Spaniards from engaging in the African slave trade; but, with a casuistry not unprecedented on that subject, they have reconciled their conscience to the lawfulness of purchasing slaves, when brought to them by other nations; and they have even made treaties, and held out pecuniary inducements, to embark their neighbours in that iniquitous traffic.

M. Depons complains that the Spaniards neglect to clothe and feed their slaves properly, and that they have no physician to attend them in their illness. He contrasts, with no small complacency, their conduct in these particulars with that of the French colonists of St. Domingo. But, from his own statement, it appears that the Spaniards give their slaves land to cultivate for provisions, and allow them leisure for its cultivation; and that, in their dress, houses, and accommodations, the slaves of Caracas are not on a worse footing, when compared with the slaves of St. Domingo, than their masters are, compared with the former planters of that island. The slaves of the Spaniards possess some advantages which the slaves of no other nation enjoy. If they are ill used by their master, they can compel him to sell them to another person; and if a slave can amass a sum equal to his purchase money, he has a right to buy back his freedom.

In 1789, the royal authority was interposed, to ameliorate, in some other particulars, the condition of the slaves; but its plans of reform were so absurd and impracticable, that no effect whatever resulted from its interference. In a colony where many of the masters sleep upon skins, and have but one apartment for their whole family, it was seriously ordered, that every slave should have his separate sleeping-room, furnished with a bedstead, mattrass, coverlet and curtains. Police officers were appointed to determine the quota of labour that should be exacted from every slave. The male and female slaves were to be kept in separate gangs, and not allowed to have any communication, even on days of festivity. Such regulations, as M. Depons justly remarks, were better calculated to form a society of monks, than to supply the wants, or accelerate the growth, of a rising colony. The free blacks and people of colour are more numerous in the Spanish settlement, than in the colonies of any other nation.

The laws of Spain, contrary to the usual system of colonial policy followed by the Europeans, are extremely favourable to the manumission of slaves; and the piety and devotion of the Spanish character contribute powerfully, as in the dark ages, to increase the number of freedmen. The people of colour in the Spanish colonies are in general poor, and not more industrious than the Creoles. They are not admissible to any public office in the state, nor into the army of the line; but they

may serve in the militia, and even rise to the rank of captain. They are liable to capitation tax, which, in Caracas at least, is not exacted; and they are forbidden to have Indian servants. They may be physicians; but they cannot be priests. There are various sumptuary laws regulating the dress of their women; but they are fallen into neglect; and the only regulation now in force is one, which prohibits them from having a cushion to kneel upon in church. Trifling as this distinction is, it is sometimes abrogated for money, in favour of a particular family, by a royal order, raising the members of it to the rank and privileges of whites. The marriages of people of colour with white families of distinction, have been always extremely rare in the Spanish colonies; but, with the lower ranks of whites, they were not unfrequent, 'till 1785, when the difference of colour was declared to be a sufficient reason for refusing consent to a marriage, on the ground of disparity of condition in the parties.

Since that time such marriages have ceased, except in case of white women, who having been exposed, when infants, by their mothers, to conceal their frailty, have been saved by negresses or people of colour, and who found themselves reduced, when they grew up, to marry in the class where they had been educated. M. Depons calls loudly for a foundling hospital at Caracas to remedy this evil.

Mr. FOX, *during his* ABODE *in* FRANCE.

[*Extracted from the Pamphlet, "Circumstantial Details of the Last Moments and long Illness of Mr. Fox."*]

THE peace of Amiens enabled Mr. Fox to visit France, and he eagerly seized the opportunity. His arrival at Paris was notified in the Moniteur. Every one hastened to hail the English patriot. On the day after his arrival, he received a note from General Santerre, of which the following is a literal translation:—

To Mr. Fox.

"General Santerre has the honour of expressing the emotion with which he has now learned the arrival of Mr. Fox. General Santerre requests the permission of personally testifying his respect for the patriot of England, and, by example, the benefactor of the human race——."

Mr. Fox, in Paris, was as good a Frenchman as General Santerre. He returned therefore an immediate answer:—

To

To General Santerre.

" Mr. Fox has the honour of expressing to General Santerre the emotion of satisfaction with which he has learned the esteem of a man such as General Santerre. Mr. Fox flatters himself that General Santerre will pardon his abruptness, if Mr. Fox should call at the general's hotel in the course of the morning."

Mr. Fox had scarcely received and answered the note from General Santerre, when he received another from Barrere, with expressions of equal esteem, veneration, &c.

This was followed by addresses from all the learned and public bodies, all hailing him by the same term—the benefactor of the human race and English patriot. It would have been no reasonable subject of surprise, if such general flattery had even elevated Mr. Fox from his self-recollection; but Mr. Fox took it all in good part, and valued it at its real worth. He visited every one to whom he was invited, and as he was invited every where, his circle of acquaintance was very extensive.

Mr. Fox was received at the French court with the same distinguishing homage to his genius and patriotism. The first consul, now emperor, said in public, that if the then English ministers had been such men as Mr. Fox, England and France might remain at eternal peace, and mutually concur to the happiness of each other. It is not to our present purpose to question this position of his imperial majesty. Bonaparte had certainly a very superior esteem for Mr. Fox, and seized with ostentation every opportunity of publicly testifying it.

Mr. Fox had thus an opportunity of acquiring a kind of knowledge which he turned to much advantage upon his return to England, and had he lived longer, the public might have reaped the benefit of his intimacy with the details of the French administration. I can assert it as a fact well known to many gentlemen at that time at Paris, that Mr. Fox was himself concerned in many of the internal arrangements of the French government. He explained to the French ministry the English law of the liberty of the press, and assisted them, in the formation of the civil code, to adapt it to the circumstances of France at that period.

It was indeed at that period the fashion to talk of Mr. Fox; his dress, his manner of speaking, even his dinners were imitated; and the beaux of Paris exhibited a curious contrast between what they were, and what they endeavoured to appear. It was the fashion to be a thinking man to think like Fox; the Parisian coxcombs therefore endeavoured to model their faces and features to this character.

It was not only amongst generals and statesmen that Mr. Fox was received with these flattering distinctions. He at-

tracted every eye at the opera, and was followed as a spectacle through the streets. His picture was in every window, and no medallions had so ready a sale as those which bore the head of Mr. Fox. The artists alone felt some discontent that he refused to sit for his portait. I have heard an anecdote of some humour; that a celebrated statuary sent his respects to Mr. Fox, and begged to inform him that, from his desire to partake of his immortality, he had it in purpose to take a statue from the person of Mr. Fox: he would call on Mr. Fox the following day, when he flattered himself that Mr. Fox would have no objection to sit half an hour in his shirt whilst he took the exact contour of his body.

I must leave Mr. R—— A—— to answer for this anecdote; I repeat it as I have heard it related in the presence of Mr. Fox, who laughed at it heartily.

Madame Recamier was constant in her attentions to Mr. Fox; she called for him one day in her carriage, when Mr. Fox hesitating—"Come," said she, "I must keep my promise, and shew you on the promenade. The people of Paris must always have a spectacle; before you came, I was the fashion; it is a point of honour, therefore, that I should not appear jealous of you. You must attend me, Sir."

Two or three days after this appeared in the Clef du Cabinet, an ode of some wit, but what in England would have given offence to the subjects of it. Mr. Fox and Madame Recamier were Jupiter and Venus. The author, according to the French modesty, standing in the lobby of the opera, put a copy of the ode into the hands of Mr. Fox, and another into those of Madame Recamier, whom Mr. Fox was attending. Mr. Fox was confused upon reading the subject; Madame Recamier laughed. "Let them say what they please," said she, "as long as Monsieur Recamier possesses his senses, and laughs at them as I do."

Mr. Fox always entertained the highest opinion of Madame Recamier; he said that she was the only woman in France who united the attractions of pleasure to those of modesty. When her dress was objected to, Mr. Fox said, that it was the fashion in France, and had lost its indecency in its generality.

Mr. Fox entertained an exalted opinion of the talents of Barrere; he said that he reminded him of Mr. ——, that "in his activity by starts, in his alike suiting himself to every party, without attachment to any; a man of honour himself, but without difficulty connecting and adhering to men of the most perfect infamy; Barrere was a complete counterpart of Mr. ——, who in the same situation would be found to act in the same manner." Mr. Fox said, that Barrere had more sagacity than any of the French ministers, that his designs were

more

more comprehensive, and his practical means best conceived. Barrere had an equally exalted opinion of Mr. Fox; circumstances of course did not allow the free cultivation of this acquaintance.

Mr. Fox said of Bonaparte, that he was a man as magnificent in his means, as in his ends; that he was a most decided character, and would hold his purpose with more constancy, and through a longer interval than was imagined; that his views were not directed to this kingdom, that he looked only to the continent. That his commercial enmity was but a temporary measure, and never intended to be acted upon as permanent policy.

Bonaparte had frequent private interviews with Mr. Fox. It will be allowed that these opportunities enabled him to form a just estimate of this celebrated man. Perhaps here was the great value of the services of Mr. Fox, and here was the great point in which the public will most feel his loss. I have before mentioned, that he entertained a very peculiar opinion of Bonaparte; that he said that he had a proud candour, which, in the confidence of his success in whatever he had resolved, scorned to conceal his designs. "I never saw so little indirectness in any statesman as in the first consul. He made no secret of his designs."

OCCASIONAL ESSAYS.

No. II.

MR. EDITOR,

IN my former number I promised to animadvert on drinking, I mean to *excess*. Some men alledge, in excuse for this folly (not to give it an harsher epithet), that parties, who fall not together by the ears about politics, find themselves, at times, so barren of conversation, and amusement, that nature falls to low water mark, and that the juice of the grape is absolutely necessary to exhilarate the spirits, and return them to the spring tide of health. So far, and no farther, let the glass circulate freely, and cheerfully; for what mind must that man, or set of men possess, who cannot strike some amusement out of themselves?

An improper use of liquor only stagnates the ideas, and swallows up every noble and manly feeling. Man is disrobed of his native dignity, incapable of thinking or acting with that rationality interwoven with his being, and sinks himself to a level with the brute.

But in pointing out the disease, it is necessary to administer a cure, and that by lenitives, and not corrosives.

At all convivial meetings, custom has adopted the unaccountable mode of calling on every gentleman for his toast or sentiment. Now I have a motion to make; that at all parochial dinners, city feasts, &c. that must be carried by every member of the court of aldermen, *nemine contradicente*, as well as church-wardens, sidesmen, and overseers. I have remarked, it is the great number of *toasts*, that promote so rapidly the free circulation of the intoxicating juice; and as all these toasts must be duly honoured, or the constitutional rights of Bacchus invaded, I have, Mr. Editor, considered a hint offered by a brother of the quill, which I shall endeavour to largely improve on.

First. Then I agree with the aforesaid brother quill, that some toasts may be *eaten* as well as drank; which, in the course of an entertainment, will save a great inundation of claret from collecting, as it were in a whirlpool, in the throats of many gentlemen in company, and which, as a vortex, draws their ideas to a centre; and besides, as a true and faithful subject of Great Britain, can never recommend the encouragement of *French* manufactures.

Secondly. I have digested the design, and shall here propose toasts in due order as they may rise.

Grace being responsed! let the ceremony of toasting begin. The first,

"All our noble selves!"

Push it about directly in a plate of good turtle soup, and

"Prosperity to our western isles!"

may be eaten in a fine, rich, high-seasoned *calipach* or pee! Our honest friends of Hibernia, may be remembered in *calcunnon* or *praities!* And those of Caledonia, spiritedly attacked in a delicious well-flavoured haggas! But when our dear loved country,

"Old England!"

is the toast! send it round in a good clumsy slice of roast beef —not forgetting the *plumb pudding!*

When a gentleman toasts a celebrated beauty, she must be eaten in *white fricasee* of *chicken*, or delicate roasted *sweetbreads*. But when a lady toasts—a beau, (and some ladies are very fond of *harmless* things hanging about them, like trinkets to a watch) such pretty creatures should be sweetly tippled off in *rasberry trifle—whipt syllabub*—or *gooseberry fool!*

Cloth removed, bottles and glasses set, (not forgetting to suppose me the president),

"The king!"

Which must be swallowed in bumpers of the most delicious wine, filled to the brim! overflowing, like every loyal heart, with love of country, and love of fame! Observe, the toast from the chair is,

" Our most gracious sovereign!"

Pledge me gentlemen!

Mr. Editor, if any dastardly soul refuses the president's toast, I command you to knock him down a double bumper of salt and water, to cure him of his principles. After which follow of course,

" The queen and royal family!"
" The constitution!"
" Trade and navigation!"
" Navy and army!"
And lastly,

" May the spear of Britannia ever prove successful in a noble cause, and never be uplifted in a bad one!!!

Now all these toasts duly honoured, will just serve to promote conviviality and good fellowship, without depriving any one man of his reason. And then what a pleasure must arise to him at his return home? to have an amiable, beautiful woman, his wife, meeting him with smiles, throwing her ivory, well-turned arms, in transport, round his neck, and giving him a kiss the very gods might envy, saying—" O my dear, I am happy to see you! well, now you really are very good?" Instead of—" O Heavens! what a filthy creature! what a frightful pickle he is in! Why John! here is your master drunk!"

Deary is then consigned over to the care of John, who tumbles him into bed, with as much delicacy as he would thrust a pig in a sty, where he lies snoring 'till morning. And then what a phalanx is drawn up! head-ache, sickness of stomach, quivering nerves, &c. All of which, by attending to the rules here laid down, may be avoided, and physicians' fees, and apothecaries' bills curtailed in their amount, and perhaps altogether. Every gentleman must allow the utility of the proposition; and when I assure them, that a reformation in point of drinking, or rather drunkenness, will be a very strong recommendation to the ladies, I have not a doubt but in a short time the tun of Bacchus will be hung with black, whilst the all-conquering god! in conjunction with Hymen, will revel in supremest bliss, and exclaim with the inimitable Rowe—

Now " Marriage is no more the jest of fools!"

PARISIAN FASHIONS.

Walking Dress.

A Plain muslin frock, a walking length; front and sleeves rather full; the latter gathered into a plain band of muslin the size of the arm; and finished at the edge of the gathers with

with a bow of narrow riband. Bonnet of the cottage form; the front of straw, or chip, with a round sarsnet crown of lavender blossom, terminated behind with a small bow of riband; a silk handkerchief of the same colour crosses the crown, and is brought under the chin, where it is tied in a bow. The hair in simple curls on the forehead, and a small round cap, with a plaiting of lace, is seen under the bonnet in front. Sash to correspond with the trimmings of the bonnet, tied in a small bow behind; a *pelerine* formed of three deep falls of finely plaited, or crimped muslin. India silk scarf of pale green, with narrow coloured border. Buff gloves, above the elbow. High shoes of the same colour, laced with riband of lavender blossom; amber necklace and ear-rings.

Full Dress.

White crape dress over white sarsnet; the back high, and bosom low, adapted to the antique ruff of bouffooned lace which meets it, and which is sloped to a point in front, and terminated with the clasp which confines the *cestus;* the sleeve is quite plain, with a white satin riband at the edge. An imperial helmet, or cap of the jockey form, with full *tiara* front, of pale pink satin, ornamented with pearl crescent in front. A plain lace veil of the clearest texture, with a rich border in colours, falls from the centre of the crown on each side, and terminates below the knee, with tassels to correspond with the border. A sea-green shawl of fine mohair, with a rich border of various shades and colours, is negligently thrown over the back of the figure, and is only confined in front by the diversified and natural attitude of the hands. Necklace, bracelets, and ear-rings of pearl, with emerald studs; *cestus* and armlet of gold. White satin shoes, and white kid gloves.

English Costume.

DUCHESS *of* ROXBURGH's FULL DRESS.

As worn by her Grace on her late Marriage.

ROBE of the finest India muslin, embroidered in small sprigs, and worn over a white satin slip. Drapery of lace, falling from the left shoulder in front, and terminating on the right side of the waist behind with a silk tassel; the sleeves formed of three falls of lace, with antique, or puckered tops, of white satin. Drawn tucker to correspond, terminating on the shoulders; simple wrap front, fastened with a single diamond pin. The hair formed in full bands on the forehead, and turned up simply behind, with the ends in loose curls, falling over the bands in front, fastened behind with a diamond comb, and ornamented before with a broach and star of brilliants. Maltese cross of diamonds, suspended from a row of large pearls.

CAUTION *to* SERVANTS.

BY 14th Geo. 3. c. 78. s. 84. "If any menial, or other servant, through negligence or carelessness, shall fire, or cause to be fired, any dwelling-house, out-house, or houses, or other building, any where within Great Britain, such servant being thereof convicted by the oath of one witness, before two justices, shall forfeit 100l. unto the churchwarden or overseers, to be distributed amongst the sufferers by such fire, in such proportions as to them shall seem just; and in case of default to pay the same immediately after conviction, the same being demanded by the said churchwardens, then such servant shall, by warrant under the hands and seals of two justices, be committed to the common gaol, or the house of correction, as the justices think fit, for eighteen months, there to be kept to hard labour."

The GREEN MAN.

AMONG the personages attracting public notice at Brighthelmstone, is an original, or *would be* an original, generally known by the appellation of the *Green Man*. He wears green pantaloons, green waistcoat, green frock, green cravat, and though his ears, whiskers, eye-brows, and chin, are better powdered than his head, which is, however, covered with flour, his countenance, no doubt from the reflection of his clothes, is also green. He eats nothing but greens, fruits, and vegetables; has his rooms painted green, sofa, chairs, tables, bed, and curtains, all green; green gig, livery, portmanteau, gloves, whip, and silk handkerchief, and green seals to his watch.

Answer, by a Youth of Mr. Chivers's School, St. Austell, to Isaac Gumley's Question, inserted July 14.

THE process, at large, to this question, would rather exceed the limits of the Entertainer. However, I find, by a proper algebraical process,

x to be = to 7 = g
y = to 14 = o
v = to 11 = l
z = to 4 = d

whence the word required is GOLD.

☞ Similar answers have been received from R. Maffett, of Plymouth; Triangularius, of Evershot; W. Backhouse, of Evercreech; J. Backhouse, of Mousehole; J. Rowden, jun. of Heytesbury; and C. P. Ninnis, of Tavistock.

Answer, by T. Coumbe, St. German's, to J. A——'s Charade, inserted August 18.

THE parts, when they are right combin'd,
A BARGAIN you will quickly find.

Answer, by W. D. of Bristol, to E. S.'s Anagram, inserted August 25.

IN your anagram, Sir, gay NOON appears,
Which resembles life in blooming years.

☞ Similar answers have been received from W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; T. Scadding, of Wellington; J. Ryan, of Stonehouse; W. Varcoe, of Mevagissey; Sophia, of Modbury; J. S. J. T. Symons, Henry Stoneman, and S. T. Wreford, of Exeter; M. P. M. of Marazion; and J. C. of Ottery.

Answer, by J. James, of Hinton St. George, to J. Badcock's Charade, inserted August 25.

BRAINTREE, an Essex town, will shew,
The town your charade meant, I trow.

☞ We have received similar answers from W. Cross and W. D. of Bristol; W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; J. Ryan, and B. Belcher of East Stonehouse; J. Woodman, jun. of North Curry; Sophia, of Modbury; Rusticus, of Awliscombe; R. Gidley, and P. Codd, of Dean Prior; T. Coumbe, of St. German's; J. C. of Ottery; Tyro, of Penzance; and Adrianus.

An ANAGRAM, *by S. T. Wreford, of Exeter.*

IF you a town in England find,
And right transpose the same;
Part of a vessel you'll disclose,
Ye gents. find out the same.

An ENIGMA, *by Horatio.*

YE bards, permit me to declare,
Rich, poor, or old or young,
That those who know me least I fear
Are seldom happy long.
'Tis I that crown the royal board
With chearfulness and mirth;
'Tis I that stamp a proper worth
On the fair products of the earth.
In yon plough'd field, with sweating brow,
Behold the chearful swain;
Blest with his simple food, and me,
Pursues the labour of the plain.
Yet still, tho' such my merit is,
Great evils oft I cause,
Thousands induc'd by me have fall'n
The victims of the laws.
Tho' emp'rors, kings, and all mankind,
Acknowledge me their friend;
Yet they e'en study foes to raise,
Which to my being put an end.
How inconsistent then is this!
Ye bards, the cause explain,
When present that you wish me gone,
When absent hope I'll come again.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

ON AN INFANT.

SOFTLY on thy pillow lie,
Happy infant! lovely child!
Angels guard thy closing eye,
Beaming with effulgence mild!

Tho' the lightnings flash round,
With an awful, vivid glare;
Tho' the thunder's dreadful sound
Loudly bellows in the air;

Tho' they rend the knotty oak,
Proudly growing on the plain;
And at one tremendous stroke
Terminate his lordly reign:

Thou, sweet infant! art secure,
'Midst the uproar and alarm;
Thy enchanting smiles so pure
Vengeance of her rage disarm.

See, her stores of arrowy glare
Darting from the low'ring sky!
See them, pointed with despair!
See them round the guilty fly!

Whilst around thy lovely head
They all innocently play:
Whilst with others they have dread,
Nought of dread with thee have they.

Such a calm has innocence
In the arms of heav'nly love!
Such a calm the joys dispense
In the realms of bliss above!

Trent. B. A.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

ADDRESS *to the* MOON, *on seeing her rise.*

HAIL! thou beauteous queen of night,
Who now begin'st thy reign;
And scatters mild thy beams from high
Around the earth and main.

There, as the ships the billows plough,
Thou lend'st thy mildest light,
To banish far from every mind
The horrors of the night.

And when o'er land the traveller goes,
With joy he sees thee rise;

The

The clouds of night are soon dispell'd,
And light o'er spreads the skies.

The swains rejoice to see thy orb
Mount up the ethereal way;
Thy light recalls to every mind
The pleasures of the day.

And contemplation, as she roves,
A friend descries in thee;
Thou kindly aid'st her piercing sight,
All nature's works to see.

'Till the archangel's trump shall sound,
And earth receives her doom,
Light still shall emanate from thee
To banish nightly gloom.

Bristol. W. C.

Epitaph on Lady Hinchinbroke's favourite Pug, buried under the Willow-Tree at Hinchinbroke, in the Grove.

BENEATH this old willow's affectionate shade
Fair Montagu's Mungo now rests with the dead.
Of love, and of friendship so rare, and so known,
The laureat himself must inscribe on the stone;
Yet a plain rural poet, appriz'd of his worth,
May record, "he excell'd all the dogs upon earth."
When he breath'd his last gasp, what an heart-rending lay
Thro' the village was spread both by night and by day.
Still weeps this old willow o'ershading his bier,
And the nightingales chaunt softest requiems here.

Poor Mungo is dead! dead the sports and the graces,
And the saddest of tears dim the brightest of faces.
One fate waits us all—yet one truth is too clear,
The rich man's return is not wish'd by his heir.
Thine, dearest of dogs, would new transports impart,
And a sunshine of pleasure revive in each heart.
A bard yet is thine—take his tribute of praise;
This verse shall embalm thee from nature's decays:
This verse shall transmit thee to fame—happy lot!
Whilst monarchs unsung are like shadows forgot.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

AUTUMN: *A* SONNET.

CLAD in her motley robes, with garlands crown'd,
Autumn advancing, mild exerts her sway:
Her annual gifts profusely now displays,
While the gay blooming prospect smiles around.

The rustic swain, with swelling transport sees,
Luxuriant plenty grace the fertile plain,
Gay fruitful trees, and fields of golden grain,
Soft waving to the gently fanning breeze.

Then let the grateful song of praise arise
To Him from whom alone all blessings flow:
And may that Power continue to bestow
On Albion's isle such rich, desir'd supplies,

'Till days, and months, and years, shall cease to be
And time be ever lost in vast eternity.

Taunton. PRIMROSE.